

# Statewide Culminating Project Guidelines

“A Resource Tool”  
for implementing WAC 180-51-061

Footnote 8: Each student shall complete a culminating project for graduation. The project consists of the student demonstrating both their learning competencies and preparations related to learning goals three and four. Each district shall define the process to implement this graduation requirement, including assessment criteria, in written district policy.

Each Student Shall Complete A Culminating Project ►

School Districts should clearly identify student outcomes and develop and publish assessment criteria to support those outcomes ►

Each district should have a clearly identified management system which supports student success through staff development and community/parent involvement ►

Planning, supporting and providing feedback should include community involvement ►

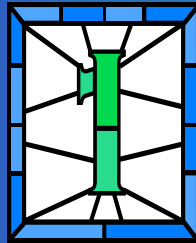
Each student will demonstrate essential academic skills ►

Each student will have the flexibility to construct their own culminating project ►

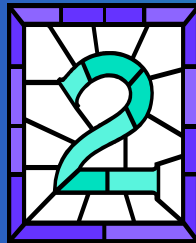
Districts shall ensure the safety of each student by complying with legal and Risk Management's guidelines ►

# Pasco School District Culminating Project Policy

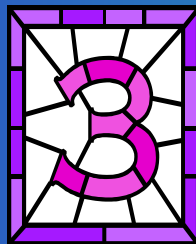
**All Students** seeking a Pasco School District Diploma will satisfy the Culminating Project Requirements as adopted by the Pasco School Board and implemented by high school staff.



The Culminating Project will provide students with an opportunity to show competencies and further experiences within State Learning Goals 1, 2, 3 & 4 through successful completion of a self-selected project.



The Culminating Project will be developed through staff, student and community collaboration and implemented with student success in mind.



The safety and welfare of Pasco School District Students will guide all policy decisions regarding the Culminating Project.

# Each Student Shall Complete A Culminating Project

*All students seeking a Pasco School District Diploma will satisfy the Culminating Project requirements as adopted by the Pasco School Board and implemented by high school staff.*

## General Population

Project Requirements take into consideration and build upon Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALR's) and Certificate of Mastery (COM) skills. Successful completion of the WASL and achievement of the COM indicate ability to successfully complete the Culminating Project.

Students who are receiving instruction via alternative placements (Running Start, vocational -technical schools) will still be required to participate.

Project Requirements assist students with 13th year transition and school-to-work plan.

## Special Education

Special Education students will participate in the Culminating Project.

Culminating Project requirements will be accommodated within the parameters of individual student education plans (IEP) via collaboration with the case manager.

Accommodations will be made prior to the start of the student's senior year and communicated to the student and parent.

Possible accommodations include but are not limited to:

- Abbreviated or eliminated project requirements
- Lower passing score required
- Additional assistance on completion of project components

## ESL Students

English as a Second Language students will participate in the Culminating Project.

Culminating Project requirements will be accommodated within the parameters of individual student language needs and abilities as determined via collaboration with classroom teachers and facilitators.

Accommodations will be made prior to the start of the student's senior year and communicated to the student and parent.

*Equity = Opportunities Granted and Barriers Removed*

# School Districts should clearly identify student outcomes and develop and publish assessment criteria to support those outcomes

Student Outcomes Per EALR's	Pasco High School Senior Project	State Goals Achieved
<p><b>Goal 1)</b></p> <p>Read with comprehension, write with skill, and communicate effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and settings;</p> <p><b>Goal 2)</b></p> <p>Know and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; civics and history; geography; arts; and health and fitness;</p> <p><b>Goal 3)</b></p> <p>Think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems;</p> <p><b>Goal 4)</b></p> <p>Understand the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.</p>	<p><b>Senior Project Components:</b></p> <p>Research Paper - 10 pages 10 sources (one interview required)</p> <p>Experience - 15 hours minimum. Stretch student's abilities. Verified by community mentor</p> <p>Boards - 8-10 minute presentation (5-7 minutes follow-up questions). Use of visual aids required.</p> <p><b>Requirements for all Components Published in Student Senior Project Handbook.</b></p> <p>Paper - Detailed Rubric and scoring sheet</p> <p>Experience - Student maintained time log and mentor verification form</p> <p>Boards - Presentation Requirements and Presentation scoring rubric</p>	<p><b>Research Paper</b></p> <p>Goal 1 At least one from Goal 2 Goal 3 Goal 4</p> <p><b>Experience</b></p> <p>Goal 1 Sometimes Goal 2 Goal 3 Goal 4</p> <p><b>Boards</b></p> <p>Goal 1 Sometimes Goal 2 Sometimes Goal 3 Goal 4</p>

Each district should have a clearly identified management system which supports student success through staff development and community/parent involvement

Pasco High School Requirements	10 Page Research Paper 15 Hours Experience Senior Project Portfolio 8-10 Minute Presentation	Students missing deadlines are contacted and success plans developed. Parents are contacted for support. Failing performances are allowed revision or repeat.
Information to Students	Project reviewed in Jr. English Handbook Distributed in Fall Monthly Advisory meetings Full Time Coordinator	Students pulled out of class if needed Conferences with parents and counseling Staff Advisors Staff Editors
Information to Staff	Dedicated Staff Meetings Use of Learning Improvement Days Early Release Training Sessions Handbooks to Advisors Open door policy Annual "Concerns" meetings	
Information to Parents	Parent Night Spring & Fall Monthly Newsletters Student Progress Letters Report Cards Parent Handbook (Fall 2002)	Senior Project Office Phone number and e-mail address published in Handbook and all other materials distributed to parents and community. Community Survey at conclusion of Senior Boards.

# Planning, Supporting, and Providing Feedback Should Include Community Involvement.

## Planning

Pasco High School's Senior Project was developed via the school's 1209 committee. Members of this committee included teachers, counselors, and administrators, as well as parents and business leaders.

Research and development into possible models included consultation and collaboration with Pasco School District stakeholders.

## Supporting

Members of the local community support Pasco High school students in their Senior Project in various ways.

Local businesspeople and artisans act as mentors for Pasco seniors. Some individuals assist in editing papers and have acted as special advisors for students who have a difficult time meeting deadlines.

At Pasco High School, local community members act as panelists for the Senior Boards, providing feedback to students and scoring student presentations.

## Providing Feedback

Feedback from community members is valued by faculty and students. Community input is vital to project success and continued development.

Evaluation forms are distributed and collected at all events where community volunteers are utilized.

These evaluation forms are often the catalyst for program revisions.

# Each student will demonstrate essential academic skills



## READING BENCHMARK 3 - GRADE 10

- 1 - The student understands and uses different skills and strategies to read.
- 2 - The student understands the meaning of what is read.
- 3 - The student reads different materials for a variety of purposes.
- 4 - The student sets goals and evaluates progress to improve reading.

## Pasco High School Satisfies this requirement...

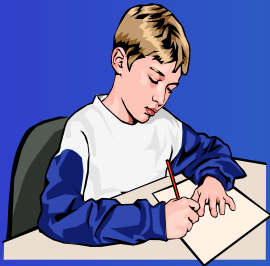
Students read for information for their research paper.

Students select information from a variety of sources:

- Books
- Magazines
- Internet



# Each student will demonstrate essential academic skills (cont.)



## **WRITING BENCHMARK 3 - GRADE 10**

- 1 - The student writes clearly and effectively.**
- 2 - The student writes in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes.**
- 3 - The student understands and uses the steps of the writing process.**
- 4 - The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of written work.**

## **Pasco High School Satisfies this requirement...**

Students use advanced writing skills for their research paper.

Students compose business letters, proposals and evaluations.

Students use editing and revising skills in all written work.

# Each student will demonstrate essential academic skills (cont.)



## **COMMUNICATION BENCHMARK 3 - GRADE 10**

- 1 - The student uses listening and observation skills to gain understanding.**
- 2 - The student communicates ideas clearly and effectively.**
- 3 - The student uses communication strategies and skills to work effectively with others.**
- 4 - The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of formal and informal communication.**

## **Pasco High School Satisfies this requirement...**

Students conduct interviews to gain information for their research paper.

Students work with mentors for guidance throughout their project.

Students communicate progress and obtain assistance on project.

Students present their knowledge and experience during Senior Boards.

Each student will have the flexibility to construct their own culminating project

- Students will create the project based on their selected Pathway.
- Students will construct a project which stretches their current skills and abilities.
- Students are encouraged to create a project which will drive their interest for a year.

Districts shall ensure the safety of each student by complying with legal and Risk Management's guidelines

- Student projects must be approved by parent/guardian.
- Student project must be approved by Pathway Facilitator.
- Students and Parents will select the student's mentor.
- Pasco School District will have final say on acceptability of projects.